



County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
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INTERIM DIRECTOR

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 21, 2013

Administrative Communication Unit

559-600-3200

Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District

Steve Mulligan 559-896-1085

***Aedes aegypti* (Yellow Fever) Mosquito Found In Fresno County**

The yellow fever mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*, has been detected in Fresno County by the Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District. The same type of mosquito was also recently found in the City of Madera. This mosquito is not native to California and is an efficient carrier of diseases such as dengue, yellow fever, and chikungunya. No illnesses associated with this mosquito have been reported so far.

Aedes aegypti is a small, dark mosquito with white markings and banded legs. It may be active around dusk and dawn but bites most often during the day and often bites indoors.

"The public's help is needed to eradicate this mosquito population before it can become established in our community", states Steve Mulligan, Manager of the Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District. "Residents who experience mosquito bites during the day are asked to contact the District."

To assist in the effort to eradicate this mosquito population and to reduce the risk of being bitten by mosquitoes, Fresno County residents who live in valley communities are urged to:

- Report mosquito bites received during the day. Also report any mosquitoes which match the description above. Call the Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District toll-free at 1-800-821-1577.
- Apply insect repellents that contain DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR 3535 according to label instructions.
- Use repellent, especially in the early morning and in the evening.
- Make sure that doors and windows have tight-fitting screens to keep out mosquitoes. Repair or replace screens that have holes.
- Use mosquito netting over infant cribs, carriers, and strollers.
- Eliminate standing water and containers that can hold water from around the home. This mosquito lays its eggs in water holding containers.
- Get FREE mosquito fish for backyard ponds or water features from mosquito abatement districts. Call 559-896-1085 for information.

Residents can visit the Fresno County Department of Public Health website at www.fcdph.org to download a flyer with information about, and images of, the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito.

Residents can also call 1-800-821-1577 to speak to a mosquito abatement district representative or visit www.mosquitobuzz.net and/or www.fresnomosquito.org

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